

Family Page

A good way to “make ready the way of the Lord” is to make a Jesse tree (see picture on front of bulletin). The whole family can work together. The Jesse tree can be a learning experience for all. Use a real tree branch or draw a tree on poster paper. Your symbols can be made from construction paper.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Second Sunday of Advent (C) • Luke 3:1-6 • December 5, 2021



Begin your tree by reading chapter 11 of the Book of Isaiah, explaining God's call to Jesse, the chosen ancestor of Jesus.

The **apple or a serpent** can represent the fall of Adam and Eve from God's grace (read Genesis 1 and 2).

The **altar** upon which Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac would be a good symbol for the Father of our faith (read Genesis 21 and 22).

The **Ten Commandments** can represent Moses' call from God (read Exodus 20:1-17).

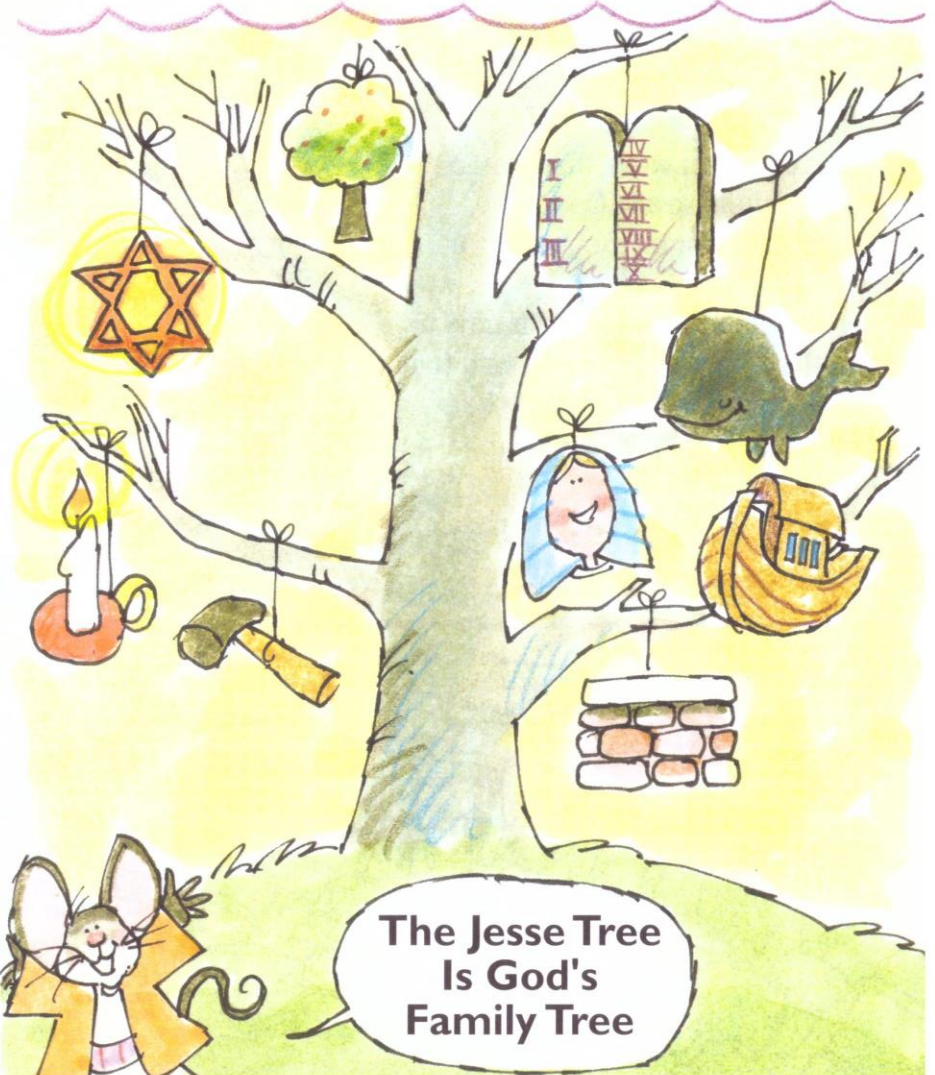
David, son of Jesse and head of the family of Jesus, is represented by the **Star of David or a crown** (read 1 Samuel 16:1-13).

John the Baptist can be represented by **water**, symbolizing the baptizing of Jesus in the Jordan (read Mark 1:1-8).

A **picture of Mary or a single rose** can represent the Mother of Jesus. For her call from God, read Luke 1:26-38.

Any **carpenter's tool** can symbolize Joseph, chosen to care for Mary and Jesus on earth (read Matthew 1:18-25).

Other symbols that could be included are the **ark** for Noah, a **coat of many colors** for Jacob's son Joseph, or a **manger** for the Christ Child. Add cutout people, one for each member of your own family, and you and your Jesse tree are ready for the Christmas celebration.



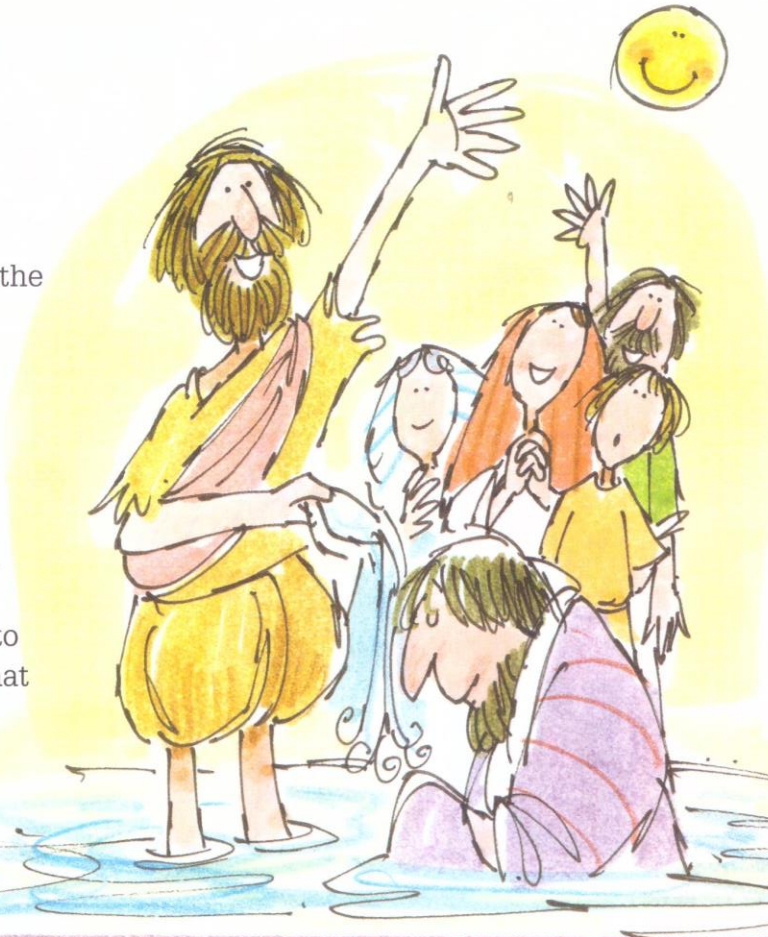
The Jesse Tree
Is God's
Family Tree

Get Ready for Jesus

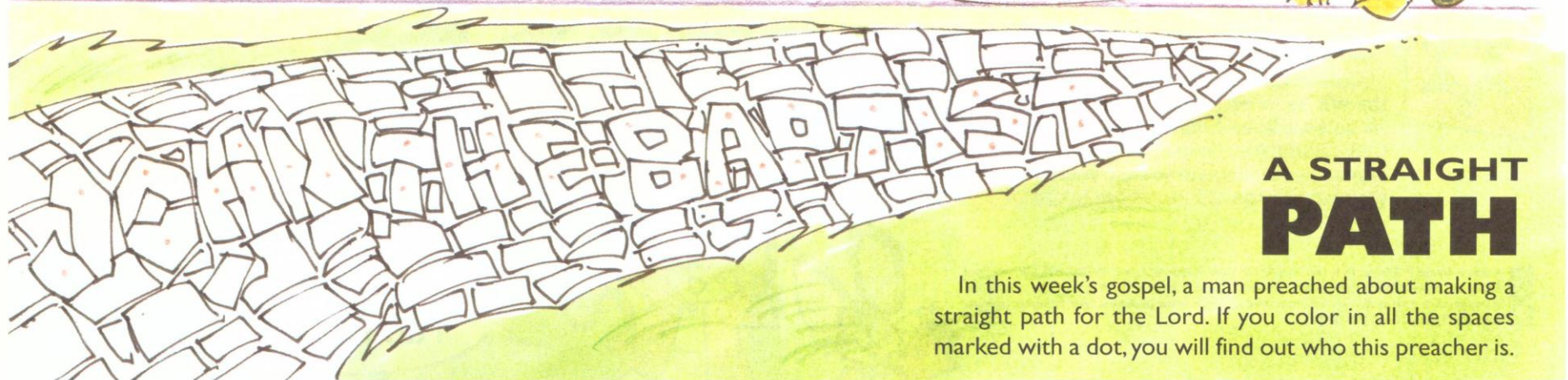
In this week's gospel story, John the Baptist has something to say, something very important for all God's people.

What did John want them to do? He told them to ask God's forgiveness for all their past sins.

He told them to begin right now to live their lives for God. He said that Jesus was coming to teach them about God's love and about everlasting life.



John has a message for you too. Listen as he tells you about getting ready for Jesus — way down inside your heart. John wants you to find new ways to do loving things for others. He wants you to begin right now to live your life for God. Maybe you can say an extra prayer each day from now until Christmas. Maybe you can do extra work to help your parents every day. Whatever you decide to do, do it for God and for love. Christmas is coming very soon. Start getting ready today!



A STRAIGHT PATH

In this week's gospel, a man preached about making a straight path for the Lord. If you color in all the spaces marked with a dot, you will find out who this preacher is.